

MAYFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Meeting of Governing Body Wednesday 6th March 2019 at 6.00pm in the Staff Room

Attendees :-

Judith Greenwood (Chair)
Alison Cox
Sarah Stepney (Head)
Jim Thorpe
Kate Challis (Clerk)
Jane McHugh
Ed Davison
Anthony Rayner

Poppy Garrod
Petroc Mackenzie-Williams (until 7.38pm)
Avi Bhangaonkar
Paula Ayliffe (Head)
Anna Chaudhri
Chenghui Ma
Clare Bartlet (observer)

| | | <u>Action</u> |
|----|--|----------------------|
| 1. | <p><u>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</u></p> <p>Apologies were accepted from Mary and Jake.</p> <p>No apologies were received from David.</p> | |
| 2. | <p><u>WELCOME NEW GOVERNORS</u></p> <p>Judith welcomed the new parent governor Chenghui, and also a prospective governor, Clare, who was observing the meeting. Everyone introduced themselves.</p> | |
| 3. | <p><u>ENGLISH LINK</u></p> <p>Judith to be the English link governor.</p> | |
| 4. | <p><u>GOVERNOR BRIEFING</u></p> <p>Judith had attended a recent governor briefing and update the GB on the main points. She had previously circulated the documentation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are now working quite closely together and are considering merging their governor services functions. • Governor Services will be visiting some schools' GB meetings to observe and to quality assure the work of the GB and the clerking. • County have released a workload reduction toolkit which the Personnel Committee will be looking at during their next meeting. • County have provided a graphic analysis of the 2018 SATs results to each school, showing how well pupils did on each question compared to nationally as well as a comparison of overall County performance against national. • High level SEND needs are being underfunded nationally and this is impacting on the general education finances in Cambridgeshire. County spend £9.6m on out of county care; this has increased as a result of children now being supported until they are 25. The number of applications for Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) are rising. County felt that austerity had led to a reduction in very early support eg midwives, health visitors, Sure Start centres which had impacted negatively on the level of SEND needs. As a result of the pressure on SEND services funding per pupil within Cambridgeshire has been reduced to increase the amount available for the high needs block. | Anna/Kate |

| | | |
|----|---|---------------|
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupil numbers in Reception have dipped to 520 in north Cambridge in 2019. Potential pupil numbers are looking healthy at the University Primary School and Mayfield but other local schools are being hard hit. County are no longer making three year demographic predictions as the models used are no longer accurate. | Action |
| 5. | <p><u>FOOD SURVEY PRELIMINARY RESULTS</u></p> <p>The GB discussed the previously circulated draft report; PWL agreed that the exercise had been very interesting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The governors and school leadership are keen to ensure a healthy relationship with food including healthy eating, body image and exercise. The limitations of the size of the small hall were acknowledged. The nutritional information received from Aspens looks good but nutritional intake will depend on what food each child chooses. Judith, Paula and Kate had observed a lunch service at the University Primary where they have a family style service ie dishes on the table for the children to serve/help themselves to. They agreed that Mayfield children ate more and had a more healthy mix of food including fruit available to them. Observations of the Mayfield lunch service identified that the main hot meal option was running out early on occasion. It was noted that the kitchen staff were very friendly towards the children and encouraged them eat well. A theme in the food survey was that children were hungry after school. It was felt that this should be expected at the end of the school day as the latest lunch service is at 12.30pm. The last two sets of data from the national weighing and measuring scheme indicate that Mayfield has level of obesity well below the national average. No data is available about underweight children. More suggestions for improvement will be made once the survey is complete and after discussion at PWL. PWL still to talk to the Design Technology (DT) co-ordinator, Daisy. The report will go the Heads once it is finalised. | |
| 6. | <p><u>SCIENCE UPDATE</u></p> <p>Sarah updated the GB on Mayfield's current position with regard to science attainment and progress. The target on the SDP is that 85% of pupils are at the expected level by the end of this year.</p> <p>Last year the results were below expected and it was felt that this was due to science not being a high enough priority and also not being assessed correctly. This year Jake and Ian, the science co-ordinators, have looked at the objectives for science and provided a description of what each objective looks like on Classroom Monitor (Sarah demonstrated this to the GB). This has been trialled by a PPA teacher who teaches science and she has found them much easier to use and more accurate.</p> <p>Progress in science has been discussed at recent pupil progress meetings; there is an improving picture but the 85% target has not yet been achieved.</p> <p>The new Ofsted framework is focussed on a broad and deep curriculum. Mayfield should be in a relatively good place as we haven't neglected the core subjects and have a science week etc.</p> | |

| 7. | <p><u>OVERVIEW OF EXPECTATIONS IN MATH & ENGLISH AT THE END OF Y6</u></p> <p>Y6 pupils sit three maths papers, two reasoning and one calculation, with questions getting progressively harder within each paper. Sarah circulated a few calculation and reasoning questions for the governors to tackle as well as some for spelling, punctuation and grammar (SPAG). Some examples of pupils writing which exceeded expectations were also circulated.</p> <p>The governors agreed that they were surprised by how much knowledge was needed and that it was a huge ask for some children. Sarah explained that if a child started below the expected standard lower down the school it was very hard for them to catch up to the end of Y6 expectations. Mayfield's approach is to educate the whole child, providing support in all areas and minimising anxiety and low self-esteem. It was noted that lower ability children can benefit from having such a clear structure for their writing and that children without parental support are likely to be at a disadvantage as parental engagement is a key factor to success.</p> <p>Petroc left the meeting.</p> <p>Q: Do the SATs results influence sets at secondary school? A: Chesterton carry out CAT tests and use the results of these more than SATs. Sarah and Paula to meet with the deputy head of Chesterton shortly to discuss progress from Y6 into Y7. In the CB4 cluster Y5, Y6 and Y7 teachers were invited to a joint moderation meeting but no Y7 teachers attended; this needs to be discussed as the children's progression needs to be a real journey.</p> <p>Q: Is there more of an onus on parents? What can we do for parents? A: Encourage parents to sit down and talk with their children over a meal. Encourage them to read with their children. The school runs some early intervention groups such as Stay and Play in early years.</p> <p>The discussion moved on to the recent Spirals week. The school felt it had been better to have the week before half term rather than straight after and logistically the arrangements had been much better. Teachers were feeling more confident about the programme. During Spirals week different year groups had worked together and this had been very successful, especially Y6 planning and delivery a PE lesson to Y1.</p> <p>Poppy, a Y5 teacher, said that behaviour had really improved. Because of Spirals she was able to adapt her planning and teaching to the children more; Spirals had been invaluable. Teachers have observed that Spirals is building self-confidence within the children. Teachers are getting to know their children and children are feeling more confident about speaking about their learning. Governors are encouraged to look at the Spirals display in the entrance which contains pupil comments.</p> <p>Sarah and Jake had attended a sharing day at a recent Spirals conference and had discovered that Mayfield is the only school to have totally embraced the programme. Spirals encourages collaboration and creativity; both considered to be desirable skills for the future ie they are things that computers can't do.</p> | <u>Action</u> |
|----|---|----------------------|
| 8. | <p><u>SFVS</u></p> <p>The governors reviewed and unanimously agreed the SFVS returned which had been prepared by the Finance Committee. Judith signed the document.</p> | |

| | | |
|----|--|-----------------------------|
| 9. | <p><u>ANY OTHER BUSINESS</u></p> <p>Paula has been meeting with about eight companies to explore starting a Mayfield breakfast club; only one company is interested and she is pursuing that.</p> <p>News from the Governing Body At their meeting on 6th March the GB:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcomed Chenghui Ma as a new parent governor. • Familiarised themselves with expectations in maths and English for Y6. • Were updated on the latest Spirals week. | <p><u>Action</u></p> |
|----|--|-----------------------------|

The meeting closed at 8.00pm.